

10/614,321

PATENT

AMENDMENT A (IN RESPONSE TO PAPER NO. 080504
(OFFICE ACTION DATED AUGUST 8, 2004))

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 were pending in this case. In the amendment hereinabove, claims 11 and 18 have been cancelled and claims 12, 13, 15, 16 and 19 have been amended. Accordingly, claims 1-10, 12-17 and 19 are now pending in this case. Based upon the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that, in conformance with the foregoing amendment, these claims are allowable.

A. §102 Rejection of Claims 11 & 18

Claims 11 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Martin et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,571,554 ("*Martin*"). It is respectfully submitted that with the cancellation of these claims this rejection is now moot.

B. Allowability of Claims 12-17 & 19

Claims 12-17 and 19 were objected to as being dependent upon rejected base claims but were identified as being allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all limitations of their respective base claims and any intervening claims. In accordance therewith, claims 12, 13, 15, 16 and 19 have been amended to appear in independent form by including all limitations of their respective base claims (claims 11 and 18) and any intervening claims (none). Hence, it is submitted that these claims are allowable.

C. Allowed Claims 1-10

Claims 1-10 are allowed.

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PATENTAMENDMENT A (IN RESPONSE TO PAPER NO. 080504
(OFFICE ACTION DATED AUGUST 8, 2004))D. Conclusion

Claims 1-10, 12-17 and 19 remain pending in this case. Based upon the foregoing amendment and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are allowable, and reconsideration and early allowance of these claims are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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